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News Release

Exploring Red River Valley History, Resources Big Draw

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Tuesday, April 4, 2006

A new course on history and natural resources of the Red River Valley is connecting the community with the region and the UMC campus.

This five-part series takes participants on fields trips to resources such as Rydell National Wildlife Refuge, the White Earth Reservation and a local Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Farm. Attendees also get to go birding in one of the best viewing areas in the nation and receive their own birding guide. In addition, all participants will receive a DVD of "Minnesota: A History of the Land" produced by the University of Minnesota College of Natural Resources and Twin Cities Public Television. Designed to introduce community members 55 and older to this vital resource and support the culture and traditions of this region, the course has already sold out more than a month in advance.

This new educational opportunity is sponsored by the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), University of Minnesota Extension Service and the University of Minnesota Crookston. Extension Campus Regional Director Deborah Zak and RSVP Director Deanna Patenaude developed the class and received \$4100 to initiate the program from the University of Minnesota Osher Lifelong Institute, College of Continuing Education and the Bernard Osher Foundation.

For more details, contact RSVP Director Deanna Patenaude at 218-281-8288.

For field trip and class details, review Natural Resources Brochure. Please note, the May 2006 class is currently full.

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